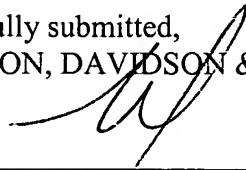


**REMARKS**

Claims 1-31 are pending in this application. The present claims were amended to conform to U.S. practice. The specification has been amended to incorporate section headings. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added by virtue of these amendments.

Consideration and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

By:   
Cary S. Kappel  
Reg. No. 36,561

DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC  
485 Seventh Avenue, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10018  
(212) 736-1940